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IN THE PATH OF NAPOLEON 100 Years After His Downfall By JAMES MORGAN

THE GREAT WAR OF 1813

Mr. Morgan draws a picture today of the opening of the last great general war in Europe before the war of 1914, when Napoleon hastened back from Russia and created a new army on the ruins of the grand army to repel the avenging Czar and the still pursuing Cossacks.

THE RISING OF THE PEOPLES

DATE AND EVENTS—AGE 4. Dec. 1812—Napoleon arrived in Paris. Dec. 21—Prussian Gen. York went over to the Russians.

EMBOLDENED by the calamity that had overwhelmed Napoleon and his army in the Russian campaign, the people of Germany rose in the summer of 1813 and fell upon him. And the leader of that great popular uprising was none other than Alexander I, the autocrat of all the Russias, who presented himself as the deliverer of the nations from the tyranny of the French.

Napoleon could not believe that the continent would trust itself to such a leadership, and he never ceased to admonish the countries of the west to beware of the Russian peril, which he himself had always viewed with dread. Even at the love feast of Tilsit in 1807, when he and Alexander, cooling and basking, sat down to divide the earth between them, he resealed, with all the stubbornness in his nature, the Czar's longing for Constantinople and, although he let him take Finland from the Swedes, he saw to it that the treaty of cessation should forbid Russia to fortify the natural outposts of Finland in the Gulf of Bothnia and make the Aland Islands the Gibraltar of the Baltic.

Nor would he consent to the Russians moving farther west through Poland, which he looked upon as a necessary barrier against them, and rather than weaken it he sacrificed his chance to marry a sister of the Czar. He declared on the eve of the campaign of 1812 that he would not agree to let the Russians have another Polish village, not even if the Cossacks stood on Montmartre.

No doubt he was honestly persuaded that he was defending the civilization of the west when he marshaled the hosts of twenty nations and led them against the Czar and his equally sincere afterward when he refused the warning cry. "In a hundred years Europe will be all Cossack or all republican."

The Russian Peril. In his exile at St. Helena he made this prophecy: "In a hundred years hence, I shall be applauded and Europe, especially England, will regret that I did not succeed. When they see their finest countries overcome and a prey to those northern barbarians, they will then say, 'Napoleon was right.'" Having himself failed to erect a dike against the barbarous horde, he was convinced that nothing could stop the advance of the Slav. Although England and France and Prussia might yet form a triple alliance against it, he declared it would be in vain, because Russia, by giving Serbia and perhaps other Balkan lands to Austria, could easily seduce that power while she was planting herself at the Dardanelles.



A FRENCH GRENADEIER. (Background in the background.)

of the races, and there is still some time remaining even within the limit of the century which the prophet of St. Helena saw in the fulfillment of his prophecy, when he assured his listeners, "I see into futurity farther than most men."

Blinded by Power. All of Napoleon's fellow-sovereigns shared in some degree his distrust of Russia, when in the spring of 1812, the avenging Czar entered Germany in pursuit of the wreck of the retreating grand army. "Napoleon or I, I or Napoleon," Alexander had exclaimed; "We cannot reign side by side." The earth was not large enough to be divided with the Corsican.

But the subjugated monarchs of the west drew back from the offer of the Czar to be their defender. They preferred even the chains of the French and the ill they had rather than fly to others unknown which the Slav might bring upon them. The Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia, who dreaded the thirst of the Russian bear for the waters of the Hellespont and the Vistula, hesitated between a choice of evils, their subjects bailed Alexander as a savior and welcomed him as a friend and brother, the wild heresmen from the Valley of the Don as they loomed across the German plains clear to the gates of Hapsburg. Prussian soldiers mistook the King Frederick William III and rallied to the standard of the Czar. The German people sprang to arms and, throwing off the galling yoke of the French, drew around the hated conqueror of Jena a grand army.

Napoleon might still be the ally of kings but he was no longer the son of the revolution and his magic wand could no longer command the nations. On the contrary, he saw the inspiring title of Liberator, which he wore in his magic wand, faded and dimmed on the banners of the Cossacks, who snatched from him the watchwords of patriotism and liberty, which moves the world and holds it together with an irresistible passion. For patriots were no longer behind him but were in front of him and challenged him to either way he turned, whether in Spain, in Russia or in Germany.

The Rising of the People. In vain he appealed to his new allies, the king and princes to help him beat back the tide of popular feeling. Patently imagining that the bond of blood which united the monarchs and the Hapsburgs, the Corsicans, he looked upon Marie Louise and her baby as hostages of peace between Austria and France, he humored his imperial father-in-law by planning a special coronation for the Emperor and the King of Rome.

But while he was relying on a young woman and a teething child, a poor little German girl, without a crown and without a title, influenced the destinies of nations far more than the daughter and the grandson of the Hapsburgs. For when that simple fraulein sold her finger rings for 1500 and gave the money for the triumph of her fatherland, the loyal women of Germany caught the infection of her spirit of sacrifice and heaped upon the altar of patriotism not only their rings but all their gold and silver as well. As many as 150,000 German francs were sold, pulled the wedding rings off their fingers and dumped them in the mill, gladly taking and proudly wearing in exchange iron rings inscribed, "Gold I gave for iron."

Although Goethe might smile and say to the Germans, "Shake your chains, if you will not break them," simpler minds were braver and truer. The spirit of Queen Elizabeth walked abroad among the freedom burst upon the land and the church for German independence. Even while it rose from their ankles to their knees, they went on haggling and bargaining with the French diplomats to make the best terms they could with Napoleon. They feared the Czar and the clamorous populace and were slow to yield to either.

Napoleon's own ambassadors tried to win him of the strength and willfulness of the current, with which his monarchical allies were contending. But he was deaf to the counsels of prudence in 1812 as he had been in 1811. Metterlich notified him that his own life had been



THE GRAVE OF GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS AT LUTZEN.

threatened because of his Napoleonic sympathies and he assured him that he was ready to die for the Austro-French alliance if Napoleon would only help him allies by displaying a new spirit of moderation and generosity. But the Lord mercifully disposed of the foolish Prussian could not or would not recognize his extremity and his opportunity and disgorge any of the spoils of his victories. He began to give back villages they will next demand whole kingdoms, he said. Frederick William, while boasting that he punished even those who dared jest at Napoleon, and while hinting at a matrimonial alliance between the Hohenzollerns and the Bonapartes, humbly begged that his long overdue fee bill for the grand army he paid. But Napoleon refused to give him a sou. He was so more alarmed by the threats which his agents reported, of the double Prussian preparing to cast off his thralldom than a shepherd would be if told that his sheep were plotting a rebellion. "The German is contented," he said, "if he has his cabbage crop in his cellar."

The Coalition of 1813. When, however, the patriot politicians had induced Frederick William to leave Berlin, which was only a French garrison, the King and the King were on the tide of patriotism and, arrived at Breslau, he was readily drawn into negotiations with the Russian and Prussian allies nearly quarreled over the division of the spoils yet to be won. In the yearning of the prevailing breeze to follow the Russian and Prussian, he demanded that he be permitted to plant his paw on the Polish lands that Napoleon had taken from Prussia at Tilsit. He was after much bickering, however, a bargain was struck. When the patriot politicians had induced Frederick William to leave Berlin, which was only a French garrison, the King and the King were on the tide of patriotism and, arrived at Breslau, he was readily drawn into negotiations with the Russian and Prussian allies nearly quarreled over the division of the spoils yet to be won. In the yearning of the prevailing breeze to follow the Russian and Prussian, he demanded that he be permitted to plant his paw on the Polish lands that Napoleon had taken from Prussia at Tilsit. He was after much bickering, however, a bargain was struck.

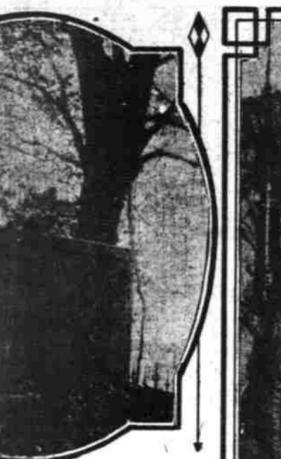
A St. Helena Prophecy. In a hundred years Europe will be all Cossack or all Republican.

back from Russia. Since the moment he awoke in Paris the morning after the Russian snow and worse than that, for her best fighting men and her war material were either buried under the Russian snow or were hotly enlisted in the Spanish and English under Wellington. Two decades of warfare had drained the country of its military resources and left it in a state of exhaustion which is properly reflected to this day in the national birth rate.

The land had been combed again and again, and now it must be combed with the teeth of the sons of the well-to-do who had been avoiding service by paying from 2500 to 3500 for substitutes. The physical standards of recruiting were lowered to catch all who were strong enough to walk and big enough to carry a musket. Many of the recruits were so small or young that Savary, the minister of police, objected to their drilling before the eyes of the nation.

The New Army. In the face of all difficulties, Napoleon had an army of more than 200,000 soldiers in Germany, with 600 cannon, when he left Paris for the front at 9 o'clock of an April morning after investing the Emperor with the regency and bidding good-by to the little King of Rome, who in vain had been lifting the prayer for peace which his government taught him.

In less than four months since his return from Russia he had built up a new



THE TOWERS OF BAUTZEN, IN SIGHT OF WHICH 40,000 MEN FELL.

army on the wreck of the grand army. And it is well to remember that he had to do it without telegraphs or telephones, without railways or automobiles and without even a press to aid him in rallying and inspiring the people and in organizing and supplying his forces.

The peoples of Germany had forsaken their allegiance to Napoleon and the confederation remained true and drove their unwilling subjects to his eagles. "Not for a moment," he said, "did I have to complain of a single one of the princes." But a prince of his own house was playing him false. For Murat, King of Naples, ever since he abandoned the grand army and raced back to his throne, had been intriguing with the enemies of Napoleon and endeavoring to save his crown that Napoleon gave him. Even the Emperor's warning to him that he was mistaken in assuming that the lion was dead, did not deter the King from secret conferences with the representatives of England, Austria and Russia.

For once, therefore, Napoleon began a campaign without the assistance of his old cavalry leader. But thanks to the loyalty of France and the German princes and to his own titanic labors, he was enabled to cross the Rhine with nearly twice as many men as the Russians and the Prussians had been able to assemble against him. Few, however, had ever smelled powder and most of them had to be taught to load a musket. The majority of their corporals, sergeants, lieutenants and captains were strangers to war, for the veteran officers of the lower grades as well as the veterans in the ranks lay beneath the wheat fields of the Danube, in the valleys and on the Sierras of Spain, or on the Russian steppes. Moreover, the very soul of the army was dead and its commander no longer wore the aureole of victory.

Slav and Teuton. The foe, on the other hand, not only had stolen away the spirit of the grand army, but many of the officers of the Prussian contingent also had borrowed leaves from the master's book of recipes for making war and now understood the Napoleonic method as well as his own marshals. They had not served for nothing a seven years apprenticeship since the beginning of 1811. They took to the woods by the thousands, but were hunted down and dragged to the standards. Others, however, made good their escape by maiming and incapacitating themselves.

The adult male population of the country had been winnowed so often that hardly anything remained but the chaff. The physical standards of recruiting were lowered to catch all who were strong enough to walk and big enough to carry a musket. Many of the recruits were so small or young that Savary, the minister of police, objected to their drilling before the eyes of the nation.

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THE EMPEROR'S INSPECTION. (By R. F. F.)

and on to Berlin, the River Spree washes no walls more picturesque than those of the little city of Bautzen, whose quaint medieval towers stood witness to the deadly struggle of more than 20,000 men as they swirled for two days about the hillocks that rise from the countryside. In the fighting on the first day, Napoleon drove the Czar and the allies out of the town, and that night the campfires of his army formed a flaming line nine miles long. At 5 in the morning of the second day, he was in the saddle and riding among his troops, and at 2 he announced to them that the battle was won. The chimes were sounding in the belfry of the cathedral of Bautzen, where for nearly 20 years now Catholics and Protestants have used the same altar, when the Czar ordered the defeated army of the alliance to retreat through the Silesian gorge.

The losses of both sides together aggregated not far from 60,000. Napoleon had won another victory as costly and as bloodless as that of Lutzen. For through a misunderstanding of orders on the part of Ney, the Russian and Prussians, who could and should have been shut off and nearly 20,000 men were left behind him. No other man but Berthier had been so closely associated with him, and Berthier sometimes quarreled with him. But Duroc, he used to say, "loves me as a dog loves his master." And faithful even in the grave, he lies at the feet of his master's tomb in the Invalides.

The Fatal Truce. The Russians and Prussians, when Napoleon resumed the chase in the morning, continued to flee before him, while they quarreled among themselves. He had been in the field only five weeks and had won two great battles, swept back the enemy from the Saale to the Oder, a distance of more than 200 miles, and filled the counsels of the allies with dissension. But although he had 200,000 men at his command against not more than 120,000, he was ready therefore to welcome a pause in the campaign. He had found it harder to get horses than men—or boys. Moreover, he was fast driving his foes before him, and he was fast driving his own army of his father-in-law, who he feared, would thus be drawn into the alliance against him.

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A ST. HELENA PROPHECY.

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